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ORD 1289-65
5 May 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for Research & Development

SUBJECT: Comments on the Attached SPS Paper

1. I have no quarrel with Personnel's distinction between SG's and SPS's. I would add, however, that in some cases the requirement for very advanced knowledge in a given discipline may exist for perhaps a few years only. In that sense, an SPS employee may be more temporary. As an example, I might wish to hire an extremely capable electrophysiologist for the next two or three years for current programs. At that time, however, the requirement might be fulfilled and my need will be in some other highly specialized discipline such as neurophysiology.

2. My major objection to Personnel's working paper is the assumption that the technical requirements of the chiefs of the divisions in ORD outweigh the managerial requirements in all divisions except Analysis. It is my best judgment that the managerial will outweigh the technical in the Biological and Behavioral Sciences Divisions but that specialized technical skill will be required within the Medical Sciences Division. Therefore, I have requested an SPS although this slot may not be occupied by the chief of the Medical Sciences Division who could conceivably be a GS-15. You may have similar views on the Physical Sciences Divisions.

3. To state my views again, the SG slots requested by ORD, including certain of the division chiefs' slots, were in every case managerial in nature. In some cases, SPS's were requested but were not necessarily designated as chief of that division. They were requested because of the requirement for highly skilled, narrowly trained scientists whose duties are well described on page 1 of the attached memorandum. Perhaps I can discuss this with you before your meeting with Mr. Blake.

[redacted] 25X1
Deputy Assistant Director
Office of Research & Development

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LS/ORD/DD/S&T: [redacted] (5 May 1965)

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